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AMONG the recent gifts to the U. S. National Museum are a series of minerals from Cobalt, Ontario. These include a specimen of niccolite which is an arsenide of nickel and shows the rich metallic luster so characteristic of all nickel ores. Another is a fine specimen of breithauptite, which is a combination of nickel and antimony, with strings of native silver in a matrix of calcite. The slender veins of these two metallic ores wandering irregularly through the white limestone are most attractive. With these there is also from the same locality a specimen of the mineral, known as smaltite which in composition is a combination of cobalt and arsenic. It has a white silvery appearance and is a good cabinet specimen.

THE twenty-first session of the Biological Laboratory of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences located at Cold Spring Harbor, Long Island, will be held for six weeks beginning Wednesday, July 6. The courses offered comprise field zoology by Drs. H. E. Walter and C. B. Davenport; bird study by Mrs. H. E. Walter; comparative anatomy by Drs. H. S. Pratt and A. A. Schaeffer; general embryological and microscopical technique by Miss Mabel Bishop, of Goucher College; cryptogamic botany by Dr. D. S. Johnson, of Johns Hopkins University, and Mr. H. H. York; ecology by Dr. H. S. Conrad, of Grinnell College. For the first time a course for teachers on the principles of agriculture is offered under the direction of Professor H. H. Laughlin, of Missouri State Normal School, at Kirksville. The usual facilities for beginning investigation under the direction of the instructors are offered and a limited number of tables and private rooms are available for investigators. Those who desire to make use of the facilities of the laboratory for investigation may address the director, C. B. Davenport, Cold Spring Harbor, N. Y., from whom announcements may be obtained.

THE *Geographical Journal* is informed that a scientific expedition to Colombia is being organized at Neuchâtel, under the auspices of the Société Helvétique des Sciences Natur-

elles, the leader being Dr. O. Fuhrman, professor of zoology at Neuchâtel University. It is hoped that a start will be made in July next, and the main objects kept in view will be the study of the fauna of the lakes and rivers of central Colombia, as well as the parasitic flora, but geological and geographical observations are also contemplated. Dr. Fuhrmann will be accompanied, as botanist, by Dr. Mayor, of Neuchâtel. The Magdalena will be ascended from Baranquilla to Puerto Berrio, whence the party will proceed to Medellín. From this and other centers excursions will be made to various parts of the central Cordillera and the region of the Cauca, the travelers afterwards turning their attention to the Paramos of the eastern Cordillera, and making excursions in various directions from Bogotá. Halts will also be made later at Honda and Puerto Berrio, during the return journey to the coast.

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#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

MRS. HELEN HARTLEY JENKINS has given the University and Bellevue Hospital Medical College \$100,000 to endow the Marcellus Hartley professorship of medicine.

MR. CHESTER W. LYMAN, of New York, has given \$5,000 to the Sheffield Scientific School of Yale University for a lectureship on the subject of water-storage conservation to be known as the Chester W. Lyman lectureship in memory of the donor's father, who was for many years professor of physics and astronomy in the Sheffield Scientific School.

A FRIEND of the Allegheny Observatory has endowed a fellowship in astronomy at that institution. The fellow is to receive \$500.

It is reported in the daily papers that Mr. John D. Rockefeller has given \$150,000 to erect buildings for the American College for Girls at Constantinople.

MR. W. H. LEVER has offered to give to the University of Liverpool, property of the value of £84,000, which appears to have been the receipts resulting from a libel suit instituted against the London *Daily Mail* by Messrs. Lever Brothers.

THE Duke of Portland has promised £2,000 towards establishing a chair of mining at Nottingham University College.

THE trustees of Cornell University have decided to limit the work in the medical department at Ithaca to one year in the future instead of two, as has been the custom since the school was founded.

OF thirty-one elections to the Phi Beta Kappa honorary fraternity at Cornell University, nineteen are women, and of twenty-seven elections at the University of Illinois twenty are women.

CLOSER relations are being established between the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, and the Mt. Sinai and German Hospitals in New York. The following members of the staffs of the hospitals have received appointments in Columbia University. From Mt. Sinai Hospital Drs. Brill, Libman, Gerster and Berg, and from the German Hospital, Drs. Kammerer, Stadtmüller and Hensel.

DR. GEORGE P. BURNS, of the University of Michigan, has been called to the chair of botany at the University of Vermont.

MR. LEONARD DONCASTER, lecturer in the University of Birmingham, known for his work in zoology and especially in heredity, has been elected a fellow of King's College, Cambridge.

MR. WILLIAM RAY, Rhode scholar from Adelaide at Oxford, has been elected to the Philip Walker studentship at Oxford, for research in pathology. The fellowship is of the value of £200 a year for three years.

DR. G. HABERLANDT, of Graz, has been called to the chair of botany at the University of Berlin, vacant by the retirement of Professor Schwendener.

DR. KARL UHLIG, of Berlin, has been called to the chair of geography at Tübingen, to succeed Professor K. Sapper.

DR. ALFRED GRUND, of the University of Berlin, has been made professor of geography in the German University of Prague.

DR. ERNST MEUMANN, of Halle, has been called to the chair of philosophy at Leipzig, vacant through the death of Professor Max Heinze.

#### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

##### THE DIRECTORY OF AMERICAN MUSEUMS

THE Directory of American Museums of Art, History and Science, which is being prepared by the American Association of Museums, is nearly ready for the printers, and all museums which have not already returned information regarding their collections are urged to communicate at once with the undersigned.

The data desired include a list of the staff; an enumeration of the nature and extent of the collections, with comments on the more important material; a statement of the sources and amount of the financial support; particulars regarding the building, including the amount of floor space occupied; the scope and purposes of the museum; information concerning the museum library and publications, if any; and the times and conditions upon which the museum is open to the public, with statistics of attendance, if available.

The cooperation of the American museums is earnestly requested in order that the directory may be as complete as possible.

PAUL M. REA,

THE CHARLESTON MUSEUM, *Secretary*  
CHARLESTON, S. C.

##### A QUEER FISH

SOME newspapers have connected me with the statement that a specimen said to be a fish with four legs was caught in Brazil. Permit me to say that the particular specimen has no legs and is not a fish.

C. H. EIGENMANN

#### SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

*Lehrbuch der Protozoenkunde. Eine Darstellung der Naturgeschichte der Protozoen mit besonderer Berücksichtigung der parasitischen und pathogenen Formen. Zweite Auflage der "Protozoen als Parasiten und Krankheitserreger."* Von Dr. F. DOFLEIN.